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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/757,691	01/14/2004	Thomas Wegman	RTZ204T4	4078
7590	12/19/2005		EXAMINER	
HORST KASPER 13 FOREST DRIVE WARREN, NJ 07059			ROBERTSON, TIARA S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3635	
			DATE MAILED: 12/19/2005	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/757,691	WEGMAN, THOMAS
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Tiara S. Robertson	3635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 14 January 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The font style is not consistent through out the specification, i.e. lines 2 and 3 on page five are italicized and the remaining lines on page 5 are not.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "the bottom side" in line 5 and "the region" in lines 5-

6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 2 recites the limitation "the lower region" in line 4 and "the two shingle shoulders" in lines 7-8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 3 recites the limitation "the two shingle shoulders" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S.

Patent No. 1,888,055 to Tobin et al. in view of U.S. Patent No 3,866,378 to Kessler.

Regarding claims 1-4, Tobin et al. discloses a roof shingle comprising a shingle neck (11 on fig. 3) and a shingle body (10 on fig. 3). Tobin et al. does not disclose a raised engagement and guide element at the bottom side of the lower region of the shingle body, where the raise engagement and guide element exhibits a female mold undercut zone in the direction of the body and is placed remote from the shingle neck and where correspondingly dimensioned male mold like undercut zones are disposed at the two shingle locations. Kessler discloses a shingle comprising a shingle body (13 on fig. 1) with a raised engagement and guide element at the bottom side of the lower region of the shingle body, where the raise engagement and guide element exhibits a female mold undercut zone in the direction of the body (12 on fig. 1) and where correspondingly dimensioned male mold like undercut zones are disposed at the upper region of the body (6 on fig. 1). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the body portion of the shingle disclosed by Tobin et al. to include the male and female undercut zones as disclosed by Kessler. One would have been motivated to make such a modification to make the installation of the shingles easier and to provide extra securing means for the shingles.

Regarding the width requirements specified in claim 3, this limitation is a design choice and is not a critical aspect of the claimed invention, since applicant has not indicated the criticality of this feature.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tiara S. Robertson whose telephone number is 571-272-2944. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Friedman can be reached on 571-272-6842. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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12/07/05



Carl D. Friedman
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600